

HB 923 -- STATE ENERGY PLAN

SPONSOR: Miller

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Energy and the Environment by a vote of 12 to 1. Voted "Do Pass" by the Select Committee on Utilities by a vote of 11 to 0.

This bill requires that any comprehensive state energy plan developed by the Division of Energy is approved by the General Assembly before it is adopted and implemented.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that it is important for the state to have a statewide energy plan, but currently no member of the General Assembly has been involved in the development of the plan. As an energy plan is implemented the General Assembly would have to pass legislation to authorize portions of the plan. This bill would require approval of the entire plan before beginning legislation for specific pieces.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Miller and Association of Electric Cooperatives.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill were concerned about the process of using executive orders in implementing a state energy plan if it has to be approved by the General Assembly.

Testifying on the bill was Andy Knott, Sierra Club.